Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Newsletter

Constructors Competition

September

Online & On the Air

By CARS Members

Despite the lack of meetings, online and on-air activities continue. Normally August or September would have the Constructors Competition. Well RSGB are having a virtual one.

Have you put your spare lockdown time to good use? Let us and/or the RSGB know (see details inside). The RSGB deadline is 25th September, whilst there is an opportunity to briefly present your handiwork at the Virtual CARS AGM a little later in October.

CAR Nets - September is a 5-Tuesday month so remember we have Top Band this month as well as 80m

CARS AGM is coming on Tuesday 6th October

- A Virtual one this year - See inside for notice

XTRAnets: Meanwhile remember that GB3ER will be continuing to host XTRAnets on the first Tuesday, whilst the club meetings at Oaklands are postponed. **Next is Tue Sep-1 via GB3ER**

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Club Diary

Tue 1-Sep-2020	CARS XTRAnet on 70cm instead of club meeting	On Air ! GB3ER
Tue 29-Sep-2020	CARS 5th Tuesday net on Top Band	On Air!
Tue 6-Oct-2020	CARS AGM – Volunteers Required!	Online – see notice

Club Nets

CARS meets for talks/events on the first Tuesday of the month. The subsequent Tuesdays have club radio nets as follows below and dates listed on our calendar at www.g0mwt.org.uk/main/events/categories/net/ :-

- **1st Tuesday in the month – XTRAnet**
  This occurs whilst meetings are suspended - UHF on GB3ER starting at 8pm (local)
- **2nd Tuesday in the Month – VHF**
  The CARS VHF FM Net uses GB3DA from Danbury starting at 8pm (local).
  GB3DA is 145.125MHz Input and 145.725MHz Output - and CTCSS-only (110.9Hz), 2min timeout
  If for any reason GB3DA is not available then 145.375 Simplex will be used. Vertical aerials are best for this
- **3rd Tuesday in the Month - UHF**
  The CARS UHF FM Net uses GB3ER from Danbury and starting at 8pm (local).
  GB3ER is 434.675MHz Input and 433.075MHz Output - and is CTCSS-only
  Vertical aerials are best.
- **4th Tuesday in the Month - HF**
  The CARS 80m Net on "3756kHz" Night, SSB and starting at 8pm (local).
  Horizontal aerials are best. The idea is to enable distant CARS Members to join the Net.
- **5th Tuesday in the Month (when there is one!) - MF - This Month, Tue Sep-29**
  This is the CARS Top Band Net on 1947/1950 kHz +/-QRM, LSB and starting at 8pm (local).
  Horizontal aerials are usually used for this Net. A reminder - limit your power to a max of 30 Watts, please.

Training & Morse Classes

If you are interested in the new RSGB online exam or other opportunities,
please contact **John O'Connell M0JOC** our training coordinator and Exam Secretary

John can be contacted via training2020@g0mwt.org.uk or 07868-004380

Note: RSGB have improved their exam booking system for online Foundation and Intermediate exam candidates. The RSGB Syllabus has also been up-issued to clarify a few points and remove the need for Intermediate practicals. Full Exams are not yet available but are expected soon.

More info and other updates are at: www.g0mwt.org.uk/training

Morse classes at Danbury are suspended – but do contact Andy G0IBN who has on-air practice sessions

Follow @TrainWithCARS

CARS 2020 AGM NOTICE

It is proposed that due to the virus we hold a virtual meeting for the AGM as it is thought unlikely there will be any actual meetings at the City Museum for some time to come.

The CARS Virtual Annual General Meeting is due on Tuesday October-6th 2020.

Ex Officio: President….. Tony Gilbey G4YTG. Vice President…Murray Niman G6JYB.

Current Committee Members:

- **Elliott Riddle M0JBY, Chairman**
- **John Roe G4IMS, Treasurer**
- **Andy Kersey G0IBN, Membership Secretary**
- **Colin Page G0TRM, Secretary**
- **John O'Connell M0JOC, Training**
- **Geoff Gibbs M0YJG, Equipment Manager**
- **Oliver Prin M0WAG, QSL Manager**
- **Jon Gibbs M0KGX, PR Manager**
- **Ian Duxbury M0LZI**
- **Jacky Gibbs, M6OJG**

Vacancies exist for a Newsletter Editor and up to six Ordinary Committee members

In addition to reports and elections, there will be an opportunity for members to voice their suggestions for the future and overall running of the Society under the current difficult conditions. (2021 Subs, More Special Events. Open Air Meets. Further Virtual Meetings.)

Thinking of joining the CARS committee?

- Would you like to help in planning the Club's future?
- Are you good at organising ?
- Do you have a 'special interest' you would like to introduce to CARS?

At the AGM members will have the opportunity to stand for election and put their ideas into practice. Please contact any committee member or Secretary Colin G0TRM (before the day).

Note: Online / virtual software means to be confirmed

GB80CH Radar Anniversary

Commemorating the 1940-2020 anniversary, the GB80CH special event station was organised by the BAE Systems Great Baddow Amateur Radio Club (GBARC) and supported by CARS. It operated from 12 to 23 August. In addition like GB100MZX, the call was used for three CARS nets - on 2m, 70cm and 80m

With PR by GBARC, RSGB and CARS, it proved popular on air with almost **1500 QSOs with 60 countries** using CW and phone on bands from 80m to 2m, as well as the club nets.

QSOs were also made with linked special event stations GB80BRS at Bawdsey Radar in Suffolk and GB0VCH at Ventnor on the Isle of Wight – the latter was the first radar to be attacked on August 12th 1940.

The GB80CH team comprised Andy G0IBN, Keith G3WGE, Les G4JDS, Ian M0LZI, Paul G4PVM and CARS net controller Bob G4MDB, assisted by Murray G6JYB.

- **QRZ:** **GB80CH , GB80BRS, GB0VCH**
- **Twitter:** **www.twitter.com/MX5BAE**
- **Web:** **www.mx5bae.org.uk**
  www.g0mwt.org.uk/events/gb80ch/gb80ch-radar.htm
  www.ventnorradar.co.uk/CH.htm

Constructors Competition

This year's annual RSGB Construction Competition will be held online, with entries judged over the internet. If you are a member of the RSGB you can enter as an individual or a team using the following process:

- Email a short description of your entry, and up to four photographs to gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk
- If your entry needs further explanation, an appointment will be made for you to talk to the judges and demonstrate your project using video conferencing technology

Entry Deadline: 25 September 2020

Results: Will be announced during the RSGB Convention on Saturday, 10 October 2020.

Categories:

- **Beginners -** A chance to build a kit, create your own antenna or construct something else to help you take your first steps into amateur radio
- **Construction excellence -** Recognising the skill and craftsmanship used in building the entry
- **Innovation -** Recognising an original contribution to the art and science of amateur radio
- **Software -** Recognising the importance of software technology to all aspects of amateur radio

Canadian Marconi Broadcast Centenary

Whilst we celebrated Dame Nellie Melba with G100MZX in June, over in Canada their broadcasting started a little earlier, also with a Marconi connection.

On May 20, 1920, the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company broadcast a radio program through its station XWA – eXperimental Wireless Apparatus – from its top-floor offices at 173 William Street in Montreal.

In their case it included a live performance by soprano Dorothy Lutton, who sang two ballads through the airwaves. The station callsign later changed to CFCF - Canada's First Canada's Finest

In May 2020 two stamps were issued by Canada Post to mark the 100th anniversary of Canada's first regularly scheduled radio broadcast:-

Station history: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CINW

Canadian Marconi History: www.jproc.ca/marconi/history.html

Info courtesy of Bryan Rawlings VE3QN

Left: The Official First Day Cover for the stamps

Wanted: HF Rigs from the 1980s

Chris Lee is looking for a classic 1980 HF Rig - with solid build quality and real knobs etc.
He prefer rigs to be big and heavy! - and to look like rigs !

Offers should be in good working condition

Contact Chris direct on: e: xanadau96@yahoo.co.uk , m: 07423-820058

1941 Conventionette

Society activities were significantly affected by WW2 but continued and the following is extracted from District-14 reports in the RSGB T&R Bulletin that have been researched by Paul G4PVM and Colin G0TRM

The calling notice in the July 1941 Bulletin (below left) had some tongue in cheek wording, but it proved to be a well-attended event at the 'Spotted Dog' in Tindall Street arranged by Laurie Fuller G6LB and attended by RSGB Secretary John Clarricoats G6CL amongst the thirty amateurs present.

District 14

CONVENTIONETTE

Sunday, July 27th, 1941, at

YE OLDE SPOTTED DOG HOTEL
TINDAL STREET, CHELMSFORD

12 noon	Foregather for Ragchew. (No coupons needed.)
1 p.m.	Picnic Lunch. (Visitors are requested to bring sandwiches. Mine host will supply liquid refreshments.)
2 p.m.	Business Meeting. (Very short.)
2.15 p.m.	Technical Talk: "The Story of the Beam," by R. L. Varney, G5RV. Illustrated by slides and models.
3 p.m.	Debate: "QRO *v.* QRP." (Ammunition issued free, but please bring your own revolver.)
4 p.m.	The 20th Letter. Fairy Tales introduced by Baron Rasputin Vladivostock.

INCLUSIVE CHARGE 2/6 PER HEAD.

By special arrangement with the C.I.D., a group photograph for future reference will be taken. Copies will be available on receipt of finger prints and a small token payment to cover costs involved.

6. Tindal Street, *c.*1930. The street was unique in supporting three adjoining public houses – the *Spotted Dog*, *The White Hart* and *The Bell* – whilst on the opposite side of the road was the *Market House*. All the inns relied to a great extent on the Friday market trade. Sadly, with the exception of the Market House, which is now an estate agent's office, all were demolished to make way for the present High Chelmer shopping precinct.

July-1941 Calling Notice and the Spotted Dog (later demolished for the High Chelmer Shopping Precinct)

Attendees Group Photo from the August edition report on the event. Full report now online at:-

http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/society/history/1941-convention.htm

G-QRP 2020 Convention

The G-QRP club has rearranged its annual meeting to be online event, taking place on **Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September**. This replaces the club's annual GQRP convention at Telford due to current Covid-19 restrictions, is open to all Club members, and there is a special deal for non-members.

The two-day event comprises a series of online presentations and knowledge-sharing meetings and chat rooms where people can discuss their ideas. The packed presentation list includes:

- **"Building QRP transceivers"** with Hans Summers G0UPL, designer and manufacturer of the QCX QRP transceiver.
- **"HF propagation and QRP"** with Steve Nichols G0KYA, author and chairman of the RSGB's Propagation Studies Committee
- **"Homebrew SSB Transceivers"** with Pete Juliano N6QW, co-presenter of the Soldersmoke podcast and a prolific home brewer.
- **"Vector Network analysers explained and the NanoVNA"** with Alan Wolke W2AEW, a professional electrical engineer who works for Tektronix.
- **"Antennas for QRP"** with Callum McCormick M0MCX, YouTube star and inventor and manufacturer of the DX Commander vertical antenna.
- **"FT8/FT4 for the QRPer"** with Anthony Luscre K8ZT, who will take a detailed look at this the fastest-growing mode in amateur radio.

The knowledge-sharing meetings will include "Using Antenna analysers" with Heather M0HMO, "Running a QRP DxPedition" with Dom M1KTA, "Battery technology for QRP portable" with Bill G4ERV, "Omni Directional antennas" with John G8SEQ and many more.

The event costs just £4 for GQRP club members and will be delivered using Zoom.

To sign up for the event just go to the Eventbrite sign-up page at:
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gqrp-club-2020-online-convention-tickets-115417887007

RSGB Convention & AMSAT-UK Colloquium

Instead of the physical Convention in Milton Keynes, the RSGB is instead holding an online Convention on **Saturday 10 October**. Whether you're a new licensee or have been enjoying amateur radio for many years there will be a range of topics from expert speakers that you can enjoy free throughout the day. The programme is now online.

AMSAT-UK who would normally have their colloquium on the same weekend have also gone virtual. Their own event starts online at 11am on **Sunday 11 October** with a series of 30minute presentations which are free to attend -

More info at:

- RSGB Convention: https://rsgb.org/convention/
- AMSAT-UK: https://amsat-uk.org/

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